



Foro de Autoridades Locales por la  
Inclusión Social y la Democracia Participativa

## CALL TO THE 9<sup>TH</sup> WORLD ASSEMBLY OF THE FAL NETWORK TO BE HELD IN DAKAR

(Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy)

The World Social Forum is making history and will take place once again in Africa, this time in Dakar (Senegal) from 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2011. Within this framework, and following what has been done since the first edition, we will hold our World Assembly on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February.

The FAL was born in Porto Alegre, together with the World Social Forum, and gathered democratic local authorities of all over the world aiming at building a strategic articulation with the alterglobalist social movements. During the following two years, FAL became a network of local governments and continued holding its meetings in Porto Alegre.

Furthermore, the FAL reached Europe and held sessions during the European Social Forums of Florence (2002), Saint-Denis (2003) and London (2004). The Ecuadorian edition of the 2004 Americas Social Forum hosted the Americas' FAL meeting. The same year, there was a big World Assembly (4<sup>th</sup> FAL) in Barcelona which focused on the Agenda 21 for Culture and participated in the foundation in Paris of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and resulted in the creation of the Commission of Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy.

In 2005, the FAL returned to Porto Alegre with the WSF. In 2006, it took place in Caracas (Venezuela) with the Polycentric World Social Forum and that year the first Forum of Local Authorities of Peripheral Cities (FAL-P) was held in Nanterre (France). In 2007, the 7<sup>th</sup> FAL accompanied the WSF in Nairobi (Kenya) and strengthened bonds with social movements. In 2008, two thematic editions were held in Spain: the FAL of Migrations (Rivas Vaciamadrid) and the FAL on the defence of Public Services (Cordoba). In 2009, the 8<sup>th</sup> World Assembly took place in Belém do Pará, in the middle of the Brazilian Amazonia, during the 10<sup>th</sup> WSF, as well as an Amazonian FAL.

This year we carried out, with high success, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Forum of Local Authorities of Peripheral Cities in the Spanish city of Getafe and started with the preparation of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Assembly of the FAL Network to be held in Dakar.

In order to face the global crisis, the 9<sup>th</sup> FAL's main objective is to reinforce local power and local alternatives built in collaboration with social movements for the creation of a more democratic, solidarity-based and sustainable international system. We will also discuss about specific subjects: decentralisation, participatory democracy, decentralised cooperation and active multilateralism, diplomacy in cities, innovative politics of social inclusion, right to the city (and also to another city), climate change, access to water as a fundamental Human Right, food sovereignty, public services, solidarity-based metropolis and cities for gender equality, among other issues of the global and local agenda.

We invite democratic and internationalist local authorities fighting for another possible world to participate to the 9<sup>th</sup> Forum of Local Authorities for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy taking place in Dakar on the next 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2011, in order to build, together with social movements and the international civil society, alternatives arising from peoples and territories to face the global crisis which is devastating our planet.

We would specially appreciate the African vision of local governments within the construction of another possible world.

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